GENERAL NOTES

Long-tailed Jaeger in Kansas.—On June 22, 1955, we saw a jaeger at Cheyenne Bottoms, a natural swamp converted into an artificial reservoir, 6 miles east and 3 miles south of Hoisington, Barton County, Kansas. Our efforts to collect the bird finally drove it from the area. We returned to the same place on June 23, found the bird again, and collected it.

The specimen (KU 32610) proved to be an adult female Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*). It was very fat, had light blue tarsi and black feet, and was in "normal" (that is, light) plumage phase. Measurements were: wing, 287 mm.; tail, 260 mm.; tarsus, 44 mm.; middle toe (without claw), 31 mm.; exposed culmen, 28.5 mm.; cere, 13.6 mm.; dertrum, 15.8 mm.; depth of bill at base, 10.3 mm.; width of bill at base, 9.1 mm., and middle rectrices projecting 124 mm. beyond adjacent pair.

The specimen represents the only record of the species in Kansas. There is, however, one record for the Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) from the state. This record of the Long-tailed Jaeger is of interest in relation to the overland, continental migration suggested for the species by some authors (Murphy, 1936. "Oceanic Birds of South America," vol. 2:1039). It should be noted, however, that inland records of the species in North America are too few to suggest any substantial inland migration. The late date of the record here reported suggests that the bird might not have been migrating northward to breed. Unfortunately, no record was kept of the condition of the ovary.—Larry D. Mosby and William M. Lynn, *State Biological Survey, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, November 3, 1955.*

Nocturnal predation on Song Sparrow eggs by milksnake.—On June 25, 1955, at Camp Arbutus, near Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, Michigan, a nest of a Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) was discovered. The nest was 15 inches above the ground in a low evergreen (*Juniperus* sp.). It was in such an open situation that I had been able to make hourly observations on it and was able to watch the entire construction and subsequent deposition of eggs.

On July 1 incubation of the three-egg clutch began. On the afternoon of July 3 an adult bird was still incubating the eggs. At 10:00 p.m. my wife and I visited the nest and found a 30-inch Milksnake (*Lampropeltis doliata*) coiled around the nest rim. Only one egg, still warm, remained in the nest. The adult sparrows were not seen nor heard. Our flashlight did not seem to disturb the snake, but it dropped to the ground when I reached out to capture it. We left the nest and returned five minutes later. The snake had returned and was in the process of grasping the egg with its mouth. After two attempts at engulfing the egg, the snake succeeded in getting it entirely in its mouth. The snake was then captured and the unbroken egg was removed and placed back in the nest. The adult sparrows never returned to the nest.

More nocturnal observations on the nest life of birds need to be made in order to determine the extent of predation on eggs, young, and even adult birds.—Harold D. Mahan, *421 W. Jefferson, Ann Arbor, Michigan, November 7, 1955.*

Cape May Warbler summering in lower Michigan.—The Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) passed through southern Michigan earlier than usual in the spring of 1955 (although no early records were broken). Males appeared in the Ann Arbor region on May 5, 6, and 7 (L. C. Binford, D. A. Zimmerman), and a female on May 12